MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
4 April, 1978

AM
10:00 *CONVENE, 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C.*

ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings: 25 April, 1978
23 May, 1978.

B. Minutes of March 1978 meeting.

C. Joint Committee on Landmarks, Appointments to Membership.

SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

A. General Services Administration

1. Federal Home Loan Bank Board Building, 17th & G Streets, N.W., Graphics and Identification.

2. J. Edgar Hoover F.B.I. Headquarters Building, Courtyard Sculpture.

B. D.C. Department of Economic Development

Old Georgetown Act

1. OG 78-57, 1063 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Alteration or Demolition of Existing Building - Reconsideration.

2. OG 78-72, 1560 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Jones Court Townhouses and Retail Complex - Resubmission.

3. OG 78-75, 3324 Dent Place, N.W., Demolition of Existing Building - Reconsideration.

4. Appendix 1.

Shipstead-Luce Act

1. Informal, 1501 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., New Entrance to American Security Bank.

2. Appendix 2.

C. D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development

Historic Subdivision Applications

1. Historic Subdivision No. 78, 1529 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Conversion and Combination of Assessment and Taxation Lots 814, 822, and 844 in Square 1271 into one Record Lot.

2. Appendix 3.

D. National Academy of Sciences

1. Albert Einstein Statue.

2. Landscape Plan.

E. National Park Service, National Capital Region

1. Temporary Sculpture Exhibit, Federal Reserve Board Headquarters Building, 21st and C Streets, N.W.

2. "Centerbeam" Temporary Sculpture Installation.

F. National Institutes of Health

Signage and Graphics System - Confirmation of Design.

G. U.S. Postal Service

Old City Post Office, 1st Street and Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Handicapped Access - Resubmission.

H. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint

1. U.S. Capitol Historical Society, 1977-78 National Medal, Obverse and Reverse Designs.

2. Secretary of the Treasury Blumenthal Medal, Obverse and Reverse Designs.

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

4 April, 1978

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
OG 78-48	3324 Dent Place, N.W. Theresa Rose Rice, executrix	Raze existing house and two sheds.
ACTION: Do not issue permit. Recommend retention of building, incorporating additions and changes to existing structure. 3/2/78		
54	1232-36 31st Street, N.W. Richard C. Stauffer	Renovate and restore buildings, demolition and new construction.
ACTION: Do not issue permit. Recommend development of schematic master plan for review by Commission of Fine Arts prior to issuance of demolition permits. Recommend preservation of buildings on 31st Street and on alley. 3/2/78		
57	1063 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Harald Geisinger, et al.	Construction of new addition to rear of existing structure for commercial use (resubmission refer to OG 78-33).
ACTION: Do not issue permit. Because of historical and architectural character of building, especially as it relates to C. & O. Canal, razing this building would be contrary to the intent of P.L. 808. 3/2/78		
58	3311 M Street, N.W. Robert N. Wolpe	Construct parking garage, retail space, and townhouse units.
ACTION: Do not issue permit. Recommend submission of model to show massing including relationship to adjacent commercial and residential structures. 3/27/78		
59	1049 30th Street, N.W. Morrison Corporation	Apartment/office and hotel and residential buildings - working drawings (resubmission refer to OG 77-133).
ACTION: Issue permit. Recommend erection and approval of on-site brick sample prior to contract for purchase of exterior materials. 3/2/78		
60	1110 Potomac Street, N.W. Flour Mill Limited Partnership	Rehabilitation of existing mill for office space and construction of new office/apartment space - working drawings (resubmission refer to OG 78-43).
ACTION: Issue permit. Recommend erection and approval of on-site brick sample prior to owners' contract for purchase of exterior materials. 3/2/78		

4 April, 1978

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
OG 78-63	3501 M Street, N.W. Ozzie Clay	New single-family dwelling - working drawings (resubmission refer to OG 78-34).
ACTION:	Issue permit. 3/9/78	
64	3503 M Street, N.W. Ozzie Clay	New single-family dwelling - working drawings (resubmission refer to OG 78-34).
ACTION:	Issue permit. 3/9/78	
65	1228 31st Street, N.W. Ernest Henry, executor	Raze 2½ story dwelling and outbuilding (Hamilton Arms) (resubmission refer to OG 78-54).
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Recommend development of schematic master plan for review by Commission of Fine Arts prior to issuance of demolition permits. Recommend preservation of buildings on 31st Street and on alley. 3/2/78	
66	3400 Reservoir Road, N.W. Ronald B. & Anne Lewis	Remove existing windows (3) and doors (2) and replace with new as per drawings.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 3/9/78	
67	1560 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Joseph Marsh	Nine townhouses, one office/retail unit, five garages (resubmission refer to OG 78-52).
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. No objection to ground floor treatment. Recommend more conventional rectangular openings on upper floor. Recommend elimination of metal fascia. Consider cutting back facade slightly to reflect octagonal rather than diagonal geometry. Recommend standard size brick and joint rather than departing from Georgetown normal range. 3/9/78	
68	3063-65 M Street, N.W. J. A. Font	Substitute four small skylights for four large skylights. Make brick and glass proposed west wall into solid brick (resubmission refer to OG 78-184).
ACTION:	Issue permit. 3/9/78	
69	3101 P Street, N.W. Don Dailey	Conversion of seven-unit apartment structure to four-unit luxury condominium (one unit per floor).
ACTION:	Do not issue permit. Recommend restudy with less change to existing openings, particularly those with some of the character of the original and adjacent building. Though kitchen windows may be acceptable, the more dramatic arched openings may be too far from the original, existing, or district character to be suitable. 3/9/78	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE OLD GEORGETOWN ACT

4 April, 1978

NO.	ADDRESS AND OWNER	PROJECT
OG 78-70	3014 Dent Place, N.W. J. E. Bendeman	3'6" x 6'6" painted aluminum temporary sign.
ACTION:	Issue permit. 3/27/78	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON THE SHIPSTEAD-LUCE ACT

4 April, 1978

NO.	*ADDRESS AND OWNER*	*PROJECT*
SL 78-		
32	*613 15th Street, N.W.* *American Security Corporation*	*Raze entire building (Metropolitan Bank Building).*
ACTION:	*Do not issue permit. Recommend retention of facade and portion of building facing 15th Street. 3/2/78*	
33	*1426 G Street, N.W.* *World Corner Building, Inc.*	*Raze entire structure (Albee-Keith's Theater Building).*
ACTION:	*Do not issue permit. Recommend retention of facade and portion of building facing 15th Street. 3/2/78*	
34	*1429-31 F Street, N.W.* *American Security Corporation*	*Raze entire structure (Rhodes Tavern).*
ACTION:	*Do not issue permit, pending "delay in demolition" hearings for review. Commission of Fine Arts has no objection to demolition of this building once other procedures have been complied with. 3/2/78*	
35	*1415 H Street, N.W.* *Le Concorde Eatery Corporation*	*Install sign, awning, shutter, and storm windows.*
ACTION:	*Not in Shipstead-Luce area.*	
36	*700 Water Street, S.W.* *Tia Maria, Inc.*	*Remove word "Tia" and replace with "Casa" in same type and style.*
ACTION:	*Issue permit. 3/2/78*	
37	*400 North Capitol Street, N.W.* *M.E.B.A. c/o Volpe Construction Co.*	*Remove marble and install glass on north court facade.* *Remove one pair doors and replace with storefront.*
ACTION:	*Issue permit. 2/24/78*	
38	*1301 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.* *Quadrangle Development Corporation*	*Office building: 10 floors office, 2 floors retail, 2½ floors parking (resubmission refer to SL 77-81).*
ACTION:	*Issue permit. Request submission of material samples for review by Commission of Fine Arts. 3/2/78*	

REPORT OF ACTIONS TAKEN ON HISTORIC SUBDIVISION APPLICATIONS

4 April, 1978

NO.	*SQUARE, LOT, ADDRESS AND OWNER*	*DESCRIPTION*
HS-79	*Square 1282, Lot 222* *3014 Dent Place, N.W.* *David P. & Stuart L. Bindeman*	*Conversion of Assessment and Taxation lot 833 into a record lot to allow conversion to condominium.*
ACTION:	*No objection. 3/15/78*	
80	*Square 1298, Lot 831* *1720 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.* *Wallace F. Holladay*	*Conversion of Assessment and Taxation lot 831 into a record lot to allow addition to existing building.*
ACTION:	*No objection. 4/3/78*	

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
4 April, 1978

The meeting convened in the Commission of Fine Arts offices at 708 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C., at 10:00 a.m.

Members Present:	*Hon. J. Carter Brown, Chairman*
	Hon. Philip W. Buchen
	Hon. Victorine du Pont Homsey
	Hon. Eli S. Jacobs
	Hon. Frederick D. Nichols
	Hon. Kevin Roche
	Hon. Edward D. Stone, Jr.
Staff Present:	*Mr. Charles H. Atherton, Secretary*
	Mr. Donald B. Myer, Assistant Secretary
	Miss Virginia C. Boutin
	Mr. Jeffrey R. Carson
	Mr. J. L. Sibley Jennings, Jr.
	Mrs. Sue A. Kohler
	Ms. Nancy H. Noyes

I. ADMINISTRATION

A. Dates of next meetings were set at 25 April and 23 May, 1978.

B. Minutes of the March 2, 1978 meeting were approved.

C. Joint Committee on Landmarks, Appointments to Membership. The Secretary told the Commission that several terms had expired and new requirements had been imposed on the Committee. The selection of three new members had informal concurrence with the National Capital Planning Commission and the Mayor of the District of Columbia, who with the Commission of Fine Arts jointly sponsor the Joint Committee on Landmarks. Proposed for membership were:

1. Culpeper, Betty Minerva, a Washington historian presently at Howard University as Head of Reference and Bibliography of Moorland-Springarn Research Center and formerly the head of the Washingtoniana Division of the Washington Central Library. Unanimously approved.

2. Humphrey, Robert L., Jr., an archeologist and anthropologist, now a Professor at George Washington University and consultant to the National Geographic Society. Unanimously approved.

3. McLaughlin, Charles C., historian specializing in urban planning and architecture, a Professor at the American University and

scholar of Frederick Law Olmsted. Unanimously approved.

The Commission also unanimously approved the reappointment of Robert Plavnick, Hugh Newell Jacobsen, and Francis D. Lethbridge.

EXHIBIT A

D. National Heritage Trust Program. The Secretary told of a request for comments on the reorganization of the preservation programs within the Department of the Interior, shifting most from the National Park Service to the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation. There would be no direct effect on the Commission of Fine Arts or its day-to-day operations. However, a letter had been sent questioning some aspects of advisory committee makeup and potential conflict of interest within its ex officio membership.

E. House District Committee Study of the Planning and Review Agencies in the District of Columbia. The Secretary indicated that the Commission of Fine Arts had been asked to testify before the House District Committee to discuss provisions in draft legislation. The Chairman indicated that possibly extending the Shipstead-Luce Act boundaries, and the relationship between various agencies would be discussed. Making the Commission of Fine Arts actions mandatory instead of advisory was one of the suggestions; the Commission did not favor that potential, but preferred to remain advisory. A draft of the Chairman's statements was approved unanimously by the Commission.

II. SUBMISSIONS-REVIEWS

A. General Services Administration

1. Federal Home Loan Bank Board Building, 17th & G Streets, N.W., Graphics and Identification. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and photographs to the members showing a two-part proposal. First identification for the Federal office building portion of the mixed-use complex. This consisted of mounted bronze-color letters near the entrances of the building. Second bronze-colored sign boxes with plexiglass inserts to be matched and infilled by the various shops in the project. Mr. Troy Kelly was present from the Board staff and explained further the locations and sizes proposed. The members examined the submission and unanimously approved the program.

EXHIBIT B

2. J. Edgar Hoover F.B.I. Building, Courtyard Sculpture, Continued Review. The Secretary presented photographs of the models for the final piece by sculptor Schrady. Mr. Dale Thompson from the Society of Former FBI Agents was present and described the progress on the work, indicating that the Commission had asked to follow the piece

throughout its design and fabrication. The Commission examined the photos and unanimously approved the design and recommended further development at full scale.

B. *D.C. Department of Economic Development*

Old Georgetown Act

1. OG 78-57, 1063 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Alteration or Demolition of Existing Building - Reconsideration. The Assistant Secretary reviewed the Commission's previous action of recommending against the demolition of the building facing the C. & O. Canal between Canal Square and a project previously approved facing Wisconsin Avenue. Mr. E. T. Simpson, representing the building owners; Mr. Ramos, an architect; and Mr. Bill Smith representing Lawson Design and the prospective tenant were present representing the project. Mr. Simpson had written the Commission requesting a rehearing on the project. The Georgetown Board had reconsidered the demolition and recommended retention of the building if structurally feasible, but indicated that if the same geometry were retained, including a stone retaining wall at the towpath level, some changes might be acceptable. Ms. Anne Vytlacil from the Georgetown Board was present, and she confirmed the Board's advice that a radical departure in appearance would not be in the best interests of the historic district.

Mr. Smith described the design proposed by the tenant as one with substantial glass and a deck near the towpath. An existing stone retaining wall, similar to one running from 31st Street throughout the western end of Georgetown, would be primarily glazed. The Commission examined the proposed replacement building drawings and unanimously recommended against such a severe departure from the existing building and retaining wall. Since the Commission's advice was still against the issuance of a building permit, no change in the previous action was needed. A letter was sent to Mr. Simpson in response to his written request for a rehearing. *EXHIBIT C*

2. OG 78-72, 1560 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Jones Court Townhouses and Retail Complex - Resubmission. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and a model of this mixed-use project previously given concept approval and now a complete preliminary design approval by the Georgetown Board. Ms. Vytlacil was present to report that the Board had reviewed a number of alternatives and recommended further design development and review in the working drawing stage. The architects, Messer Martin Schwartz and Alan Lockman were present to indicate their interest in proceeding.

Mr. Courts Oulahan was present as attorney for some adjacent property holders who were opposed to the size, density, and configuration of the project. He stated that the project had no clearance from

zoning and may have some fire protection problems as well.

The Commission unanimously approved the preliminary design subject to its conforming to D.C. Zoning regulations and review of working drawings, a site brick sample, and details as developed for signs, landscaping, etc.

3. OG 78-75, 3324 Dent Place, N.W., Demolition of Existing House and Outbuilding - Reconsideration. The Assistant Secretary presented photographs and drawings of the small free-standing frame house of rural character which the Commission has previously recommended for preservation rather than razing. The Commission had recommended against demolition because the house had appealing qualities and represented a building type fast vanishing from the Georgetown scene. They had ruled that the small house could be added to and altered, but that it contributed to the streetscape of the historic district, and thus should be respected as a legitimate part of Georgetown's heritage, though it had no great architectural or historic merit in itself.

Mr. John Gill had acted as the real estate broker contracting the house to a prospective owner who wished to raze the existing building and replace it with a pair of new townhouses. He was present to discuss his reasons for feeling that the house had no merit, was not of equal value to the neighborhood, and did not fit his impression of the type of buildings that ought to be preserved by the Old Georgetown Act. Ms. Susan Notkins, an architect retained by the contract purchaser, then reiterated her feelings that there could be no resolution to a legitimate use for the property at its cost for the proposed owner with the existing building still in place.

Mrs. Katharine Sullivan, representing the Board of the Citizens Association of Georgetown, made a brief statement in opposition to the demolition. Letters had been received from one of the neighbors and Don't Tear It Down, a preservation organization, supporting the Commission's concern over the proposed demolition.

After listening to all parties, and Ms. Vytlacil confirming the Board's majority opposition to demolition, the Commission unanimously recommended against the demolition. In his summation the Chairman traced the rich variety in building types and location within the historic district, and the importance to posterity in representing the full range through preservation and good urban design.

EXHIBIT D

4. Appendix 1, approved.

<u>Shipstead-Luce Act</u>

1. Informal, 1501 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., New Entrance

to American Security Bank. The Secretary presented drawings and photographs for the proposed replacement of a window with a door, as previously approved by the Commission. He indicated that the Bank desired to have an electric sliding door at the new entrance and that this required some change in the design previously approved. He showed a revised design surrounding the doors with bronze trim and panels. Professor Nichols pointed out that the heavier trim around the upper windows of the project area were much less refined in the new scheme. The other members objected to the idea of a bronze transom. The Commission agreed to ask for additional study with a glass transom and simplified window trim. There would be no objection to a slightly narrower doorway to permit the opening mechanism. There had been no formal submission and no action was required.

2. Appendix 2, approved.

C. D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development

Historic Subdivisions

1. Historic Subdivision No. 78, 1529 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W., Conversion and Combination of Assessment and Taxation Lots 814, 822, and 844 in Square 1271 into One Record Lot. There was no project representative present. The Assistant Secretary presented photographs of the very old, historic, and architecturally significant building on the Wisconsin Avenue frontage of the lots. He indicated that the building was an individually designated landmark and had been published by the Commission in its Wisconsin Avenue architectural survey conducted with the Historic American Buildings Survey some years before. He also indicated that the building had no alley access and that the mid-block was not visible from public space unless a structure of more than 25 or 30 feet were to be built. He and the Secretary had met with the owner, Mr. A. L. Wheeler, and Mr. Wheeler intended to build an office building in the garden. This proposed office building had not yet been designed, but would probably take up most of the garden, without altering the main historic building, and would extend up about 10 feet higher than the roof of the existing structure. The subdivision would add five feet to the rear of the lot permitting the new structure to be five feet deeper than presently permitted.

Both Ms. Vytlacil, as a member of the Old Georgetown Board, and Mrs. Sullivan, as a member of the Board of the Citizens Association of Georgetown, recommended against the subdivision, since it would make the potential project a little bigger in a place where there should be no new building at all.

The members examined the material and after some discussion felt that closing in the gardens of the adjacent buildings would be a mistake and that having a new structure visible across the old one from Wiscon-

sin Avenue was clearly not in the public interest. The Commission unanimously recommended against granting the subdivision. EXHIBIT E

2. Appendix 3, approved.

D. National Academy of Sciences

1. Albert Einstein Statue, see below.

2. Landscape Plan, see below.

The above items were considered together and were presented by the Secretary with photographs, models, and drawings showing a circular base for a seated Einstein figure to be located within the southwest grounds of the Academy of Sciences Buidling fronting on Constitution Avenue. A minimal amount of landscape change was required to provide access and complimentary setting.

Mr. David Schaff represented the Academy and indicated that his two consultants were present to fill the Commission in on the extent of the proposal and to show proposed designs. Mr. James Van Sweden, a landscape architect, presented site plans indicating that no major existing plant material would be disturbed. Then Mr. Robert Berks, the sculptor, showed the Commission the proposed sculpture and how it would relate to the site and the Mall parks across the street. The Commission examined the material and unanimously approved both the sculpture and the site plan. EXHIBIT F

E. National Park Service, National Capital Region

1. Temporary Sculpture Exhibit, Federal Reserve Board Headquarters Building, 21st & C Streets, N.W. The Assistant Secretary presented drawings and a site plan showing the proposed locations within the Federal Reserve Board grounds, facing Virginia Avenue, where a number of temporary pieces of student work fron Cranbrook Academy were being placed. He introduced Miss Mary Anne Goley of the Reserve Board staff who showed slides and prints of the proposed works. The Commission examined the materials and unanimously approved the recommendations for placement and the locations. EXHIBIT G

2. "Centerbeam" Temporary Sculpture Installation, on the Mall near 3rd & Independence Avenue, S.W. The Secretary presented drawings proposing a site for the coming summer on which to display a large composite piece some 276 feet long and 10 feet high. Including pipes, laser beams, steam, and music, the piece represented a departure from previous sculptures and activities seen on the Mall. Mr. Joseph Ronsisvalle of the National Capital Region of the Park Service introduced Mr. Otto Piene, who described the work further, and then a film

was shown which showed the types of action and reaction to expect from the piece. The Commission unanimously approved the temporary placement with a proviso that noises or music emanating from the activities be carefully controlled so as to provide no nuisance to nearby federal installations and the public. EXHIBIT H

F. National Institutes of Health

Signs and Graphics System, Confirmation of Design. The Assistant Secretary reviewed the Commission's previous advice to the National Capital Planning Commission on this project. The members had approved the system provided they could see a mockup of the final signs, and that the signs were not overly shiny. After examining a full-size mockup the Commission unanimously approved it.

G. U.S. Postal Service

Old City Post Office, 1st Street & Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Handicapped Access, Resubmission. The Secretary presented drawings and photographs showing an area the members had inspected after disapproving a previous ramp proposal. The suggestion that the ramp go to the north of the existing entrance over an areaway rather than to the south, thereby blocking another access stair, had been made by the Commission. The suggestion had been accepted and was now drawn up. The Commission examined the drawings and unanimously approved the modified design.
EXHIBIT I

H. Department of the Treasury, Bureau of the Mint

1. U.S. Capitol Historical Society, 1977-78 Medal, Obverse and Reverse. The Secretary presented various alternatives showing George Washington at Valley Forge on the obverse, which the Commission unanimously approved, and the York courthouse on the reverse, for which the Commission unanimously recommended alternative five.
EXHIBIT J

2. Secretary of the Treasury Blumenthal Medal, Obverse and Reverse Designs. The Secretary presented drawings showing a likeness of the Secretary of the Treasury on the obverse, which the Commission unanimously approved. On the reverse, there were depicted a number of seals of the universities and government agencies Mr. Blumenthal had considered important to his career. The Commission unanimously recommended against this particular technique for associating with the various institutions, suggesting that a simple seal of the Secretary of the Treasury would be far more elegant. If additional information were desired, this could be given with words rather than seals. The Chairman offered to work with Mr. Schafer of the Bureau of the Mint and the Secretary as needed to get the most satisfactory medal.
EXHIBIT K

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

Signed,

Charles H. Atherton
Secretary

EXHIBIT A

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

11 April, 1978

Dear Mayor Washington:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on April 4, 1978, reviewed the proposed appointments for the Joint Committee on Landmarks for the District of Columbia.

The proposed appointments included the following:

Robert L. Plavnick, term expiring September 30, 1979;
Hugh Newell Jacobsen, term expiring September 30, 1979;
Robert L. Humphrey, Jr., term expiring September 30, 1979;
Francis D. Lethbridge, term expiring September 30, 1980;
Betty M. Culpepper, term expiring September 30, 1980;
Charles C. McLaughlin, term expiring September 30, 1980.

The Commission of Fine Arts concurs in their selection.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Hon. Walter E. Washington
Mayor of the District of Columbia
520 District Building
14th & E Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

EXHIBIT B

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

April 14, 1978

Dear Mr. McKinney:

We appreciated the opportunity to review the signage plans for the Federal Home Loan Bank Board building at our meeting on April 4, 1978.

The signs for the identification of agency entrances and plaza were approved. The Commission also approved the prototype designs for the commercial shops. However it will be necessary to submit individual sign applications for each shop as they are developed since each commercial sign requires its own D.C. permit. This procedure also gives us the opportunity to review the lettering style, spacing and other like details to insure the designs are well done.

Please let us know if there are any questions about the procedures for obtaining the permits. A member of our staff will be happy to assist your agency representatives.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Robert H. McKinney
Chairman
Federal Home Loan Bank Board
1700 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20552

EXHIBIT C

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

11 April, 1978

Dear Mr. Simpson:

At your request the Commission of Fine Arts met with you, Mr. Smith, and Mr. Ramos at its April 4, 1978 meeting to reconsider an application to alter or demolish the structure to the rear of 1063 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. As reviewed previously by the Commission under OG 78-57, the Commission recommended against razing of the structure. Since you were not present at that meeting, I am enclosing a transcript for your information.

Though the Commission cannot approve the specific designs presented for this site, it does take a realistic point of view on the question of stabilizing or rebuilding the canal facades as necessary. The Commission has no objection to some new fenestration and no objection to pedestrian access from the buildin to the canal and adjacent projects. The designs as submitted were not recommended because they were too much a departure from the existing geometry of the building and configuration of the canal wall surfaces. The Commission would have no objection in principle to a more modest design effort at accommodating the proposed functions.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Ellsworth T. Simpson
815 15th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Enclosures

EXHIBIT D

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

14 April, 1978

Dear Mr. Pifer:

Per request of the District Government, the Commission of Fine Arts reconsidered OG 78-48 with new application 78-75 for the razing of 3324 Dent Place, N.W. and its outbuildings. This was done at the Commission's meeting on April 4, 1978, during which time the Commission had records of the previous meeting, March 2, 1978, and statements and letters both for and in opposition to the proposed demolition from interested members of the community, neighbors, and the applicants themselves.

The Commission has, in fact, reconsidered the matter at a public meeting, and determined that they would sustain their previous advice to the District Government against demolition of the front portion and main features of this house. The Commission has no objection to the razing of the outbuildings or the rear additions of the house. The Commission equally has no objection to some legitimate additional construction on the site, provided zoning and design review are accommodated. The Commission is willing to work with the owners, the project sponsors, architects, community leaders, and the city government to achieve the best possible result. We have indications there is a great deal of public and community support for this approach.

The building in question represents an era and a building type in Georgetown which is fast vanishing and demands the protection of the Federal and District governments as well as the community if Georgetown's heritage is to be accurately and carefully preserved.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Ernest L. Pifer
Chief, Permit Branch
Room 105, 614 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

April 12, 1978

Dear Grovie:

You were so kind to write that note about the Dent Place question.

Thank goodness Katherine Sullivan was there to give some semblance of balance to the issue.

I attach our ruling letter on the question. It did strike us as a fundamental issue in preserving the quality of the streetscape in that part of Georgetown, which needs every bit of older architecture it can muster.

With warm thanks for your interest, and all good wishes,

Sincerely,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Grosvenor Chapman
3335 Que Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20007

Enclosure

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

11 April, 1978

Dear Miss La Branche:

Thank you for your April 2, 1978 letter in support of the Commission's efforts at preserving the little house at 3324 Dent Place, N.W. During its meeting on the 4th of April the Commission formally reopened the case and heard remarks from various interested parties, but heard no new information compelling enough to reverse the original action. Thus we stand fast in our effort to preserve at least the major features of the front of the house, but will realistically assess compatible proposals for adding to it.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Miss Elizabeth La Branche
3335 Dent Place, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007

3335 QUE STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20007

April 4 1975

Dear Captain,

I feel I let you down by not showing up at the Commission meeting this morning. Our Citizens Association did not get its notice this time and I was under the false impression that the meeting was to be tomorrow. I was straightened out about 11:30 by C.A.G.'s secretary after it was too late to attend.

Anyway I understand there was good representation from Georgetown. I appreciate being informed the matter was coming up again as well as the great job the Commission is doing to preserve Georgetown.

Sincerely,

Edward Chapin

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

11 April, 1978

Dear Mr. Bonderman:

Thank you for your letter in support of the Commission's efforts at preserving the little house at 3324 Dent Place, N.W. During its meeting on the 4th of April the Commission formally reopened the case and heard remarks from various interested parties but heard no new information compelling enough to reverse the original action. Thus we stand fast in our effort to preserve at least the major features of the front of the house, but will realistically assess compatible proposals for adding to it.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. David Bonderman
Vice President
Don't Tear It Down
1205 Dupont Circle Building
1346 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

EXHIBIT E

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

11 April, 1978

Dear Mr. Jacobs:

At its meeting on April 4, 1978, the Commission of Fine Arts considered Historic Subdivision No. 78, for the rear of 1529 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. The Commission recommends against granting the requested subdivision, which would add to the property for purposes of new construction; we feel the application clearly falls within the protective intent of the Subdivision for Historic Sites Regulations of the District of Columbia.

The property in question contains one particularly fine Federal row building and its garden. The building is an individually designated landmark within the Georgetown Historic District, and has been documented by the Historic American Buildings Survey, DC-108; its history was published by the Commission of Fine Arts in March 1967 in Georgetown Commercial Architecture: Wisconsin Avenue. We would also like to point out that the building is flanked by small scale row buildings, both of which have companion gardens intact and in use, and that to the rear of the property residential gardens make up the major portion of the center block. The building has intrinsic architectural, historic, and cultural values which are complemented by the open space to its rear; the open land of the existing gardens is a contributing factor to the value of this and adjacent properties.

Since the proposed subdivision is for purposes of new construction, according to the applicant, and will maximize building potential in the rear garden of this property with its difficult and limited access, we are of the opinion that the public values involved would be poorly served by granting this subdivision request. Additionally, allowing new construction which might be higher than the old building would have an unfortunate effect on the streetscape of Wisconsin Avenue from the particularly important views of the site from

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the vicinity of Wisconsin Avenue and Q Street. In short, the Commission of Fine Arts recommends against granting this subdivision for any new construction in the garden space of this building because of its unique architectural and historic character.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Lorenzo W. Jacobs, Jr.
Director, D.C. Department
of Housing and Community Development
107 District Building
14th & E Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004

EXHIBIT F

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

April 14, 1978

Dear Dr. Handler:

I am happy to confirm the Commission's approval of the Albert Einstein statue which we viewed at our meeting on April 4, 1978.

The sculpture by Mr. Robert Berks should be very effective in the proposed setting. It will have a nice balance of sun and shade and is just the right distance from the building.

As far as the landscaping is concerned, it was not clear from the drawings what was proposed on the eastern end of the site. Since the Academy building has a formal setting, it may be that the ground-cover treatment which will surround the statue should be carried over to the other corner of the site in order to avoid any imbalance. This might also apply to the new holly trees.

The Commission would appreciate the opportunity to discuss this with the landscape architects before final plans are developed.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Dr. Philip Handler
National Academy of Science
Constitution and 21st Streets
Washington, D.C. 20418

EXHIBIT G

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

14 April, 1978

Dear Jack,

The Commission of Fine Arts, at its meeting on April 4, 1978, reviewed the sculpture proposed for a one-year installation in the park adjoining the Federal Reserve Building at Virginia Avenue and 20th Street, N.W.

The Commission approved the proposal, which includes the work of six sculptors, as follows:

Allen Moore, two-color painted steel piece;
Steve Simon, white-painted "I" beams piece;
Mark Loftus, "Grandstand";
John Kilgore, plexiglass on metal base piece;
Raymond Ghirardo, painted stainless steel piece;
Gordon Smith, gray granite piece.

We noted your concern for the possible crowding this number of pieces might create on one site. I believe the size of the space and the new landscaping will be able to accommodate the display fairly well. All are relatively modest in scale. If, however, the effect appears crowded once the sculpture is installed, I am sure the Federal Reserve would be happy to make whatever adjustments are necessary.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Manus J. Fish, Jr.
Director, National Capital Parks
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

EXHIBIT H

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

April 14, 1978

Dear Jack,

The Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the "Centerbeam" project at its meeting on April 4, 1978. This is the temporary "sculpture" exhibit sponsored by M.I.T. and others that is to be placed on a site between 3rd and 4th Streets, Independence Avenue, and Jefferson Drive. It is our understanding that the exhibit will not be open or the piece actuated until June 10 and that it will be dismantled shortly after its closing date of September 30, 1978. It is also understood that this same time period applies to the mounting of some of the large scale inflatable displays that are to be flown from the roof of the Air Museum.

The Commission has no objection to the temporary installation of the sculpture, but we have reservations about the possible sound volume of the musical works that are to be performed as part of the show. The Park Service should make provisions for the directionality and limitation of the volume of sound, and this approval is conditional on this aspect of the proposal being carried out throughout the span of the presentation.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. Manus J. Fish, Jr.
Director
National Capital Region
National Park Service
1100 Ohio Drive, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20242

EXHIBIT I

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

14 April, 1978

Dear Mr. Hellmann:

The Commission of Fine Arts approved the revised designs for the alterations to the City Post Office entrance at its meeting on April 4, 1978. For purposes of identification, the approved design is scheme "A" which incorporates the new ramp over the existing mechanical areaway to the north of the entry.

We are also glad to learn that the damaged steps to the south of the entrance will be repaired.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Mr. E. E. Hellmann
Field Supervisor
Design and Construction
Baltimore Area Facilities Office
U.S. Postal Service
Post Office Box 701
Columbia, Maryland 21045

EXHIBIT J

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

14 April, 1978

Dear Mrs. Hackel:

I am pleased to report that the Commission of Fine Arts approved the designs for the U.S. Capitol Historical Society's National Medal at its meeting on April 4, 1978.

The obverse of the medal showed Washington at Valley Forge and was identified as design number one. For the reverse side, the Commission approved design number five which depicted the York County Courthouse and the first Stars and Stripes. We believe this choice to be much better than two alternates which combined the Courthouse with a scroll intended to suggest the Articles of Confederation. These designs simply tried to include too much and as a result were confused and complicated.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Hon. Stella Hackel
Director
Bureau of the Mint
Department of the Treasury
Washington, D.C. 20220

EXHIBIT K

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

ESTABLISHED BY CONGRESS MAY 17, 1910

708 JACKSON PLACE, N.W.
WASHINGTON

14 April, 1978

Dear Mrs. Hackel:

The Commission of Fine Arts reviewed the designs for the Secretary of the Treasury Blumenthal Medal at its meeting on April 4, 1978.

The portrait side of the medal was quite acceptable and was approved. However, the Commission did not feel the use of the official seals of the two universities on the reverse side was appropriate.

If identification with these two institutions is desired, then we would suggest they be listed on the medal along with any other references that are thought to be suitable. The medal honoring Secretary William Windom was handled in this manner.

Despite the recent trend to personalize the reverse side, which apparently started with Secretary Fowler in 1968, the Commission would like to see a return to limiting the design to the Treasury Department's official seal, which expresses so well the dignity of the office.

Sincerely yours,

J. Carter Brown
Chairman

Hon. Stella Hackel
Director
Bureau of the Mint
Department of the Treasury
Washington, D.C. 20220